

Date:
02/16/99

Citation No.

Reference No.

Reporting Detective

DAWN JOHNSON *Dmy*

Case No.

98011295

DANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Supplement Report

KUNZ HOMICIDE

INTERVIEW WITH BRIAN JACKSON:

On Friday, February 12, 1999, at 1:20 p.m., Detective Dale Hauschel and I met with Brian Jackson at the ~~residence at~~ in reference to a pre-arranged interview.

Upon meeting with Brian Jackson, Detective Dale Hauschel and I introduced ourselves to Brian Jackson and then we spoke with Brian Jackson in private in the lower level at the Porter home.

We advised Brian Jackson that we wanted to talk with him about his entrance into St. Michael's School on March 4, 1998 and his activities in the hallway. I advised him that I had read some of his prior interviews and that he had indicated that he had entered the school via the west school door and that he had needed his key to unlock the door because the exterior door was locked and Brian confirmed this was true. He also confirmed that as he got up to this door, he could see something in the hallway and his first impression is that it was a child who was down in the hallway. He states that his first impression being that it was a child was because of the "small profile" that he observed. He states that he then entered the next set of doors which were unlocked as usual. He states that he got into the hallway area and he threw his two bags to the left in the hallway which were towards his classroom. He states that he then took his jacket off and also took off his sweater as he approached the body and he threw this jacket and sweater to the right side of the hallway on the floor. I showed him a photograph depicting the hallway and this picture has photo designation frame number 50, roll one, date 03/04/98 and this photograph was taken by Dale Anderson. In this photograph you can see in the left foreground Brian Jackson's two bags and as you move your eyes up the hallway in an easterly direction, you can see Brian Jackson's coat and sweater on the right side of the hallway closer to the body. Brian looked at this photograph and acknowledged that these two bags were deposited in the hallway just before his classroom door and that as he approached the body, he was taking off his coat and sweater and then deposited these items on the right side of this hallway closer to the body. I also pointed in the photograph to a space heater on the floor which is just outside of Father Kunz' apartment door. I also pointed out Father Kunz' two shoes laying in the hallway and obviously Father Kunz' body in the hallway.

We asked Brian Jackson to describe what he did as he went to the body. Brian described for us how he used the first two fingers on his right hand to touch the left side of Father Kunz' neck. Brian described for us how Father Kunz was lying on the floor, primarily on his front and his head was turned in a fashion that the left side of Father Kunz' neck was exposed. He states that as he touched the left side of Father Kunz' neck, "I thought I felt a pulse." Brian further advised us, "I messed up the scene, maybe screwed things up by touching the body." Brian made a comment to us that the dispatcher kept giving him direction to go back to the body and as Brian looks back on this now, he believes that he was disturbing and messing up the scene by going back and forth to the body. He wishes now that he hadn't done any disturbance at the scene.

Brian Jackson advised us that after he thought he felt a pulse on Father Kunz, he then went to the office. He states that the office door was locked and he needed to use his keys to unlock the door. He opened the office door and used the wall phone to call 911.

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At this point in time, I then played for Brian Jackson the 911 communication's tape documenting Brian Jackson's phone call to the communication center on March 4, 1998 at approximately 7:00 a.m. I advised Brian Jackson that listening to this tape may be upsetting for him, however, we hoped that by listening to the tape, it would help him refresh his recollection as to what was being said to the dispatch personnel as well as to help him recall what he was doing during the breaks on the tape when he was leaving the phone and going back to the body.

We then began listening to the tape.

In the beginning part of the 911 tape, Brian Jackson is calling in to the communication center identifying the fact that he needs an ambulance at St. Michael's School in Dane and that the Father, the priest, at the school, is in a pool of blood on the floor. He documents that he believes he got a very faint pulse and that there is "blood all over the place." He also documents that it looks like Father Kunz has been killed. The dispatcher asks Brian Jackson if he knows where Father Kunz is bleeding from and Brian tells the dispatcher that he has not looked. The dispatcher advises Brian Jackson to go back and look and advises Brian Jackson that he is going to start the ambulance and the Sheriff's Department out to the scene. At this point there is a pause of approximately 30 seconds and we asked Brian Jackson to try and recall what he did during this period of time.

Brian advised us that, "I went to look to see where he is bleeding from." He states that he was looking for a wound. Brian states that to the best of his recollection, he did not touch Father Kunz at this point, but merely looked at the body to see if he could see where the blood is coming from. He states that he could not see where Father Kunz was bleeding from and he then went back to the phone.

In the next conversation between Brian Jackson and the dispatcher, Brian Jackson relays to the dispatcher, "There's so much fucking blood." Brian Jackson indicates that he does not have any idea where the blood is coming from and that he does not even think that Father Kunz is bleeding anymore because the blood appears to be clotted. Brian further states that it appears as though Father Kunz has a faint pulse but that he also feels dead. Brian indicates that he thinks there is a pulse in his neck and that, "I could barely feel something." The dispatcher asks Brian if he knows CPR and he states that he does not. The dispatcher then instructs Brian to roll Father Kunz over onto his back. The dispatcher also states that Brian should "kind of move his chin up and kind of pull it up to see if he is breathing." The dispatcher asks Brian if there is any way that he can take the phone to the body and Brian states that he cannot but he can bring it a little closer. The dispatcher then instructs Brian to go roll Kunz over. Once again, at this point in time there is a pause on the tape of approximately 40 seconds and we asked Brian to try to relate to us what he did during this period of time.

Brian details for us that he went back to the body and, "I rolled him over." He states that he grabbed Father Kunz by the shoulders and rolled Father Kunz to Father Kunz' left. He states that as the body rolled over, he could observe Father Kunz' stomach and belly area and saw a line of blood on the belly and he may have put his hand on this area as a way of seeing what was wrong. He states at this point in time he also saw Father Kunz' neck and he grabbed Father Kunz' arms, "to get him alive." He states, "I was shaking his arms up saying Father, Father."

Brian Jackson was concerned about the length of time that he was with the body at this point and made statements such as, "It looks like I set this thing up. People are thinking what am I doing there that long." He also stated, "I know for a fact I didn't kill him." He commented that his adrenaline was rushing at this point in time and that he was able to turn Father Kunz over by grabbing him by the shoulders and rolling him over. We asked him about contact with the body at this point and he states that he would have touched Father Kunz' shoulders and his arms and may have also touched Father Kunz' stomach.

We asked Brian Jackson if he observed Father Kunz' keys and he said, yes. He states that he knows the keys were to the right of Kunz' body as Kunz was lying on his stomach. He states that to the best of his

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knowledge, he never touched the keys or moved them at all. He also stated that he did not touch Father Kunz' shoes. As we looked again at the photograph already shown to Brian Jackson, he commented that his recollection of the placement of the body in the hallway was a little different than what the picture is depicting. He states that his recollection is that the body was actually between the office and the apartment rather than in the picture it being after the apartment. This concerned him a little bit.

We also talked with Brian Jackson about whether he stepped over the pool of blood and went further east down the school hallway and he states that he did not. He states that he purposely did not go down that end of the hallway because, "I didn't want to screw up the scene." He stated that he knows that in the activities he already had done, that he had probably screwed up the scene somewhat.

Brian then talks back on the phone with the dispatcher. He makes comments such as, "Oh my God, someone slit his fucking throat." Brian makes comments such as, "I think somebody murdered him. His throat is slit. He's frozen." The dispatcher asked Brian if there is anyone there with him and Brian replies, no, but comments that the kids are going to be coming. Brian tells the dispatcher that he just got there and had just come in the door. The dispatcher asks Brian what time does the priest normally get there and Jackson tells the dispatcher that Kunz lives at the school. Jackson asks the dispatcher if there is an ambulance on the way and the dispatcher says, yes, that the ambulance and a deputy should be there shortly. Jackson tells the dispatcher that the scene is in the school, right in the school hall. Jackson also tells the dispatcher that he has blood all over himself and identifies the priest as "Father Alfred J. Kuhn." Brian Jackson tells the dispatcher that, "His hands are like frozen, like rigor mortis. Does that mean he's dead?" The dispatcher tells Brian Jackson, "Normally, yes sir." Jackson also describes Kunz' face as being all purple. The dispatcher asks Jackson if there are any weapons around and Jackson states that he did not see anything. Jackson describes Kunz' shoes as being on the floor and Kunz is wearing his t-shirt and his pants are black. Jackson describes there being a pool of blood across the middle of the hallway and that Kunz looks frozen and dead. Once again the dispatcher and Jackson talk about mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and Jackson states that there is a hole in the throat but Jackson doesn't really want to look again. The dispatcher tells Jackson if he wants to try mouth-to-mouth that "it can't hurt at this point." Jackson states that he does not even know if he can open Kunz' mouth but the dispatcher tells him to see if he can get it open. Jackson then leaves the dispatcher for 30 seconds again.

It should be noted that before we spoke again about the activities, I asked Brian Jackson about "rigor mortis." Brian had described that Father Kunz' hands were frozen like rigor mortis and I asked Jackson how he knew this term. Brian advised us that when he was in Kingston Ontario, he had taken a first aid course for certification. They had learned about rigor mortis in this class and he knew it meant that the body was stiff. I asked him how long it takes for rigor mortis to set in and he thought that it took at least a "couple hours." He stated that rigor mortis is a sign that, "life is gone." I asked Brian if he had CPR in this course and he said, no.

It should also be noted that as I was talking with Brian Jackson, I observed him wearing a wrist watch on his right wrist. I asked Brian Jackson if he is left handed and he said that he is.

At this point we went back to talking with Brian Jackson now about what he did during this 30-second space when he left the dispatcher again. Brian advised us that during this period of time he went back to Father Kunz' body, then he tried pulling Father Kunz' mouth open. He stated, "I couldn't." and he described the mouth as being "too stiff." He also stated that Father Kunz' face was all purple. Brian stated that he realized at this point that Father Kunz, "He is dead, he is dead. I know for sure now he is dead." He stated that prior to this, "I had one faint hope that he was alive, now I know he's gone."

He states that he went back to the phone and began advising the dispatcher of his observations.

It should be noted that on the tape it is recorded that Brian Jackson said to the dispatcher, "I don't think I can get it open." The dispatcher told Jackson that the ambulance and the deputy should be right there and

Jackson is sounding upset and saying things such as, "What is going on here? What is happening?" Brian describes on the tape that he is going to be 25 years of age. Jackson also describes that the kids are going to be arriving at the school in 15, 10, or maybe even in five minutes. Jackson also makes the statement, "I think he's been murdered. I really think he's been murdered." There is also some discussion between the dispatcher and Brian Jackson about St. Michael's School being in Dane County and in the Village of Dane. Brian Jackson also makes the comment that it seems like forever for the police and ambulance to arrive. The dispatcher asks Jackson if he noticed any vehicles or anything when he got there and Jackson said, no. He also commented that Father Kunz' throat, "is slit wide." Jackson stated, "I got blood all over my hands, I had my hands all over his body." There is discussion between the dispatcher and Jackson again about rigor being set in and the dispatcher asks Jackson if Kunz is warm to the touch at all and Jackson replies, "Let me check again." There is again a pause while Jackson leaves the phone and this pause is for approximately 10 to 12 seconds.

We asked Jackson what he did during this period and he stated that he went to the body and tried to feel for warmth. He states that he believes he touched Father Kunz' forehead to check for warmth and also said that it was possible that he touched Father Kunz' cheek.

He responded back to the phone with the dispatcher and described to the dispatcher, "His head still has a little warmth." The dispatcher asked Jackson if he could get his mouth open at all and Jackson stated, "It's like a rock." Jackson also described to the dispatcher that the door was locked when he came in and that he has to open it every morning.

At this point, Jackson excuses himself from the phone by saying something which is hard to understand and I asked Jackson to try to describe what was going on. It sounds like Jackson is saying something like, "Let me check . . ." Jackson listened to this section several times and really could not describe what it was he was saying. I advised Jackson that once he left the phone at this time, he did not return and I asked him to try to describe what it was he did when he left the phone. Jackson states that he believes the police were coming and he went to the door but he is not exactly certain. I advised Jackson that in prior interviews, he had described going in to check Father Kunz' apartment and I asked him if this is what he did at this time.

Brian Jackson appeared to be trying to recall what he had done and he began telling us that he believes that he checked Father Kunz' apartment during one of the prior breaks while on the telephone. He states that now thinking back on it, he's just not sure and it is possible that he checked the apartment at the end rather than during the middle.

At this point we spent some time with Brian talking about the apartment door and what he saw and what he did.

We asked Brian if he had seen any blood on the apartment door prior to going through the door. He stated that he does not recall seeing any blood on the door. We asked Brian to describe for us how far that apartment door was open when he first saw it. He described for us by showing us a door in the location we were at and estimated that the door was open somewhere between two inches to six inches. He advised us that the door was not open far enough for him to actually walk through it and that he actually had to push the door open in order to pass through it.

We then asked Brian what he was looking for when he went inside Father Kunz' apartment. He states that his initial reaction was to go into the apartment, "To look for the murderer." He stated that another reason he probably went in was for "curiosity." We asked him if he was wearing gloves at the time he opened the door and he said, no.

With the door open between two inches and six inches, we asked Brian to try and recall and now show us how he actually opened the door and specifically showing us where he touched that door as he pushed it open. Initially, Brian showed us pushing open the door using the back of his hand and specifically the back

of his right hand as he pushed that door open. I then went to some photographs that we had of Father Kunz' apartment door.

I showed Brian Jackson an exterior photo of Father Kunz' apartment door which is frame number 50, roll 16, date 03/07/98, photo taken by Dale Anderson. In looking at this photograph, I showed Brian Jackson a three-smear blood pattern approximately three feet off the floor and also showed him a two-smear wipe on the door and I also pointed out the doorknob. I then showed him another photograph which is a close-up of the three-smear pattern in the photo labeled as frame number 53, roll 16, date 03/07/98, in a photo taken by Dale Anderson. I also showed him a close-up of the two-smear pattern depicted in photograph frame number 55, roll 16, date 03/07/98, which is a photo taken by Dale Anderson. I also showed him a close-up of the doorknob depicted in photograph frame number 44, roll 17, date 03/07/98, in a photo taken by Dale Anderson. In looking at the close-ups and comparing them with the door, we asked Brian Jackson if all of this blood left on the door was left by him. Brian then tried to re-enact with an actual door in the basement where we were at how he could have transferred the blood from his hands onto this door as he opened the door to go into the apartment. Brian showed us by putting his right knuckles in the one pattern which is approximately three feet off the floor and then putting his left tips of his fingers in the higher pattern which is approximately five feet off the ground showing us how he may have touched the door in this fashion to push it open. He stepped inside the apartment to look around and after not seeing anything and not touching anything, he came back out of the apartment and states that he probably pulled on the doorknob in order to close the door. We asked Jackson why he would have closed the door behind him and what his thought process would be and he stated that he is not sure. He states that he may have closed the apartment door, "probably out of habit."

In reference to him going in the apartment, I asked him if he was prepared to confront a murderer if the murderer had been in there and he said, no and stated, "I'm a wimp."

We asked Brian again about whether or not he may have seen blood on the apartment door prior to touching it or entering it and he stated, "I don't know if I saw blood on the door." He stated, "Thinking right now, I can't give you an answer."

We asked him about what the condition of Father's apartment was as he saw it that morning and Brian stated, "It was a mess." We asked Brian if Father Kunz usually had his door locked and Brian stated that Father Kunz "always" had his door locked. Brian stated, "It was significant" that the door of Father Kunz' apartment was unlocked and ajar on the morning of March 4, 1998.

In asking Brian one more time about him pushing open the apartment door, he advised us that it is a possibility that he used both hands to push open the door and then pulled the door closed by touching the doorknob. He did advise us, however, that he does want to spend some time thinking about this on his own and he will get back to us.

In reference to Brian leaving the school out the west door, he states that he believes he left out that door on one occasion to see if the police and EMS had arrived and they hadn't and then believes he went out a second time when he actually left the school when the police and EMS did arrive. He is not positive about going out this door twice but believes that to be true.

We also asked Brian about shaving his face. Brian states that on occasion, he uses an electric razor and on other occasions, he uses a razor blade shaver. We asked him about whether or not he shaved on the morning of March 4, 1998 and Brian advised us that he did not shave or shower that morning. He states that he got up, got dressed, and grabbed a cheese Danish or donut out of his refrigerator and left. He states that he believes it was "God's will" that he was meant to be first at the school that morning and find Father Kunz.

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In reference to shaving, he states that he does not shave when he is late or lazy or just forgets. He states that he uses a razor shaver when he wants to be especially clean shaven. Otherwise most generally uses an electric shaver. He states that in general he shaves after taking a shower.

In reference to Brian's automobile, I asked him, "If someone says that they saw your car in Dane after 10:30 p.m. on March 3, 1998, what would be your response?" Brian stated, "If someone says they saw my car after 10:30, that would be a bold-faced lie." Brian denied that he was out driving around after 10:30 p.m. and states that he was at home. He recalls having a telephone conversation with Heather Goedjen that evening and also recalled watching a magician's show that evening on TV and then he went to sleep for the night. It should be noted that on the night of Tuesday, March 3, 1998, there was a show called "Breaking the Magician's Code" from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and at 8:00 p.m. there was a show on TV called "Breaking the Magician's Code: Magic's Biggest Secrets Finally Revealed II" which was on from 8:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

It should also be noted that we did ask Brian Jackson if he had anything to do with Father Kunz' death or knowledge of who did and he said, no. He stated, "I loved the man."

Brian Jackson advised us that he would continue to cooperate with this investigation and we terminated our interview with him at approximately 3:00 p.m. No further information.

END OF REPORT

Detective: DAWN JOHNSON

DCSO

pam

02/17/99

I.D. #: 22909